

**INDIANA ARTS COMMISSION  
QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING**

July 30 2010, 9:00 a.m. CDT  
Indiana University Northwest  
Library & Conference Center Room 105AB  
3400 Broadway Street  
Gary, Indiana 46408

Jeanne Mirro, Chair

Minutes

Members present: Karen Ellerbrook, Jon Ford, Jeff Kirk, Jeanne Mirro, Kelly Schreckengast, Irene Smith-King, Dick Stifel, Earl Williams

Members via teleconference: Pam Hicks, Suzie Rentschler

Members absent: Gil Cárdenas, Linda Goad, Judy Hess, Linda Levell, Trevor Yager

IAC staff present: Lewis Ricci, Michelle Anderson, Bobbie Garver, Susan Britsch, Kristina Davis, Dennis Hardin, Rob Hess (intern)

Guests: Angela Butiste (RAP Consortium)

1. **Welcome and Introductions.** Ms. Mirro called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. and asked everyone to introduce themselves. She also welcomed several audience members. Ms. Mirro extended special thanks to Commissioner Irene Smith-King, who arranged for and hosted the social events of the previous evening.

2. **Consent Agenda.** Mr. Stifel moved to adopt the consent agenda. Ms. Ellerbrook seconded the motion. The motion passed.

3. **Chair's Report**

A. Governor's Office Issues

1. Ms. Mirro welcomed newly-appointed Commissioner Jeff Kirk from Carmel, who is attending his first meeting. Also appointed as Commissioner is Trevor Yager from Indianapolis, who is not in attendance.

2. The second term of Commissioner Irene Smith-King expired on June 30, 2010. There has been no word from the office of Governor concerning her replacement on the Commission.

3. Commissioner Kelly Schreckengast, whose first term expired on June 30, 2010, reports that she has not received word from the office of the Governor regarding her re-appointment as Commissioner for a second term.

4. Ms. Mirro reported that Lawren Mills, IAC liaison to the office of the Governor, has been reassigned as Legislative liaison; her replacement as IAC liaison will be Doug Huntsinger.

B. Presentation of Slate of Officers for FY2011. Ms. Mirro presented the slate of officers (attached) recommended by the Executive Committee, and asked for other nominations from the floor. There being no other nominations, Mr. Williams moved to elect the slate of officers as follows: Jeanne Mirro for Chair, Karen Ellerbrook for Vice-Chair, and Judy Hess for Secretary. Ms. Schreckengast seconded the motion. The motion passed.

C. Committee Assignments for FTY 2011. Ms. Mirro distributed a form (attached) for each Commissioner to complete, stating their preferences for committee assignments for FY 2011. Committee assignments will be announced at a later date, after all preferences and needs have been considered.

D. Review and Approval of FY 2011 Budget. Mr. Ricci presented the proposed FY 2011 budget (attached) and spent a few minutes explaining its details. He thanked IAC Deputy Director Michelle Anderson for the many hours spent in preparation of the budget. Mr. Stifel moved to accept the proposed IAC budget for FY 2011. Ms. Smith-King seconded the motion. The motion passed.

E. Regional Partner Reviews. Mr. Ricci presented the final reports of independent reviews conducted for the Arts Council of Southwestern Indiana (Evansville) and Arts United of Greater Fort Wayne, both of which had scored below expectations in the FY2010 RAP application review panel. Ms. Ellerbrook moved to accept the independent reviews of these two organizations. Ms. Schreckengast seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Mr. Ricci went on to explain that the Arts Council of Southwestern Indiana again attained a sub-par score (below 80) in the RAP application review panel for FY 2011. Mr. Stifel moved that the IAC institute a performance-improvement plan for the Arts Council of Southwestern Indiana, for the period beginning September 1, 2010 and ending June 15, 2011, at which time the performance of ACSWI will be reviewed to determine its eligibility to re-apply for Regional Arts Partnership in FY 2012; further IAC will provide specific guidance which will address shortcomings that have caused the organization to score below expectations in two consecutive RAP panel reviews, and that such guidance will be provided to ACSI no later than September 1, 2010. Ms. Smith-King seconded the motion. The motion passed.

F. Report of Presentation Before Legislative Finance Committee. Ms. Mirro reported that she, along with IAC Executive Director Lewis Ricci and Deputy Director Michelle Anderson and Commissioner Dick Stifel, testified before the Senate Finance Committee on May 12 regarding the "Arts Commission Grant Process." She reported that the Senate Finance Committee was well satisfied with the changes to IAC grant

programs that were instituted for FY 2011 as a result of state-imposed budget reductions.

G. Ms. Mirro reported that she had received a copy of the Agency Head Review conducted by the Office of the Governor concerning Mr. Ricci's performance as Executive Director. She reported that Mr. Ricci is, in the opinion of the office of the Governor, doing a "great job."

#### **4. Executive Director's Report**

A. Year-End Financial Activity Report. Mr. Ricci presented a handout (attached) showing that IAC completed FY 2010 "in the black." Ms. Mirro praised and thanked Deputy Director Michelle Anderson for her hard work in minding the IAC budget.

B. Mr. Ricci reported that the final report from the School of Public and Environmental Affairs at Indiana University (SPEA) has been formally released. The report titled "Nonprofit Capacity Assessment: Indiana's Arts and Culture Organizations, 2010" provides useful statistics that are being incorporated into the IAC Strategic Plan.

C. State-Wide Capacity-Building Efforts. Mr. Ricci reported that two state-wide workshops were conducted during June 2010. The IU Center on Philanthropy / Fundraising School presented a workshop on fundraising and board membership, let by Dr. Tim Seiler, in Lafayette on June 3 – 4, and ArtsLab, in association with Arts Midwest, presented a workshop on organizational governance on June 25 – 26 in Bloomington. Both workshops were well-attended and well-received. A third workshop is being planned, possibly in partnership with Ball State University's Building Better Communities Program; this workshop would focus on community involvement and development. Audience member Donna Catalano was recognized by the Chair; speaking on behalf of the Indiana Coalition for the Arts (INCA), she reported that INCA is very willing to continue partnering with IAC to present technical assistance programs. Ms. Ellerbrook added that a program such as the proposed Ball State program could be very helpful to those communities which are seeking to apply for Cultural District status or have other community-building plans such as sports programming.

#### **D. Partnership Update.**

1. Mr. Ricci reported that IAC staff will be centrally providing grant administration and other services for Region 7 and Region 11 during FY 2011, since there is no current Regional Arts Partner for those two regions.

2. Mr. Ricci reported that the City of Bloomington has applied for Regional Arts Partner status in Region 8, and that Hanover College has applied for Regional Arts Partner status in Region 12. Ms. Schreckengast voiced a concern about the possibility of Hanover College being centrally-minded in its services as a Partner. Mr. Ricci replied that Hanover College has been actively seeking ways that it can extend its reach throughout the surrounding counties. Ms. Mirro added that IAC should be happy to be partnering with an educational institution. Mr. Ford moved that the City of Bloomington

(Region 8) and Hanover College (Region 12) be accepted as Regional Arts Partners for FY 2011. Ms. Schreckengast seconded the motion. The motion passed.

E. Arts Education Update. IAC Community Development Manager reported that available funding for Arts In Education Grants has dropped from \$43,000 in FY 2010 to \$31,500 for FY 2011. Funding for AIE grants comes from the IAC Cultural Trust Fund, and there is less money available due to the drop in interest rates on the certificates of deposit which contain the Cultural Trust Funds. As a result, the maximum amount allowable for each grant in FY 2011 will be less than in FY2010, but hopefully the number of grants will remain the same. Mr. Ricci suggested that perhaps funding for Arts In Education grants can be found elsewhere. Ms. Ellerbrook agreed, stating the importance of arts education.

F. Cultural Districts Update. IAC Community Development Manager Kristina Davis reported that three towns have been selected as the first three recognized Cultural Districts: Bloomington, Carmel, and Lafayette. A public event has been held in Lafayette to commemorate the occasion, and events are to be scheduled in Bloomington and Carmel. Applications are now being accepted from other towns seeking to be also named as Cultural Districts; letters of intent have been received from Muncie, Fort Wayne, Noblesville, New Albany and Terre Haute. The deadline for application is August 11, and a panel will be convened in September to review applications.

G. Indiana Artisan Program Update. Mr. Ricci presented a handout (attached) and reported that state funding for the Indiana Artisan Project will come to an end in December 2011, after two years of the cooperative project among the Arts Commission, the Indiana Department of Tourism Development, the Indiana Department of Agriculture and the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs. The Artisan Project is working toward establishing itself as a not-for-profit entity, with a governing board.

H. ArtsWork and NEA Accessibility Leadership Award Update. Ms. Davis reported that Indiana is one of only four states to receive Accessibility grants from the National Endowment for the Arts. A supplementary grant in the amount of \$4,000 has been awarded to IAC to establish satellite groups in Bloomington, New Albany and Michigan City. The grant will fund skills-based presentations for artists with disabilities in these areas. IAC is currently (FY2011) funding Individual Artist grants with the \$30,000 grant received as part of the NEA's Accessibility Award. Ms. Davis and Mr. Ricci have been invited to attend a conference of the National Association of State Arts Agencies (NASAA) to be held in Texas later this year, to make a presentation about the Accessibility Award. Mr. Williams extended the compliments and appreciation of the Commission to Ms. Davis for her "significant work".

I. Mr. Ricci reported that two cultural "roundtables" are in the planning stages. One will be a gathering of foundations and other major funders in the state, to present the case for arts funding. The second will be a meeting of invited legislators, to have focus discussions on the future of state funding for the arts.

Ms. Mirro declared a ten minute break in the meeting at 10:45 a.m. The meeting re-convened at 10:55 a.m. The Chair recognized Ms. Smith-King, who introduced Indiana House of Representatives member Charlie Brown from Gary, who spoke to the meeting briefly, encouraging all Commissioners to become pro-active in establishing contacts with legislators in the respective regions prior to the next legislative session which begins in January 2011.

## **5. Committee Reports.**

### **A. Committee on the Future, Dick Stifel, Chair.**

Mr. Stifel began by expressing his thanks to former Commissioner Ron Stratten, who acted as facilitator for the early part of the new Strategic Planning Process. Mr. Stratten has recently moved out of state, and has been replaced as facilitator by Susan Zurbuchen of the Butler University faculty. Mr. Stifel then presented a printout (attached) showing the Strategic Planning process in the form of a flow-chart. He briefly discussed the completed aspects of the plan and the upcoming aspects which include a series of public meetings around the state. The final version of the Strategic Plan is expected to be presented to the full Commission in March 2011. Mr. Stifel then presented a handout (attached) which articulates "summary points" for the Strategic Plan, including "overarching goals" and "objectives". He then asked for discussion of which objectives could be prioritized for FY 2011, so that these objectives can become the focus of technical services around the state in the current year. Ultimately these four objectives were thought to be priorities: building stronger arts organizations, developing stronger communities through arts partnerships, revitalizing a creative economy and workforce, and advancing the role of arts in education and personal development. Mr. Stifel moved that IAC adopt these four objectives as focal points for state-wide technical assistance workshops in FY 2011. Ms. Smith-King seconded the motion. The motion passed.

### **B. Program Evaluation Committee, Earl Williams, Chair**

Mr. Williams presented the written Program Evaluation Committee Report (attached) which detailed the actions taken by the PEC at its July 27 meeting. He discussed each item and presented print-outs (attached) of panel scores in the Major Arts Organization category, the State-Wide Arts Service Organization category, the Individual Artist category, and the Regional Arts Partner category. The PEC reviewed and recommended approval of grants in these categories as shown. The PEC also reviewed and ratified all successful grant applications from Regional sub-grantees statewide. Print-outs were presented (attached) showing the recommended sub-grantees in each region. Mr. Ricci extended thanks to IAC staff members Michelle Anderson, Bobbie Garver, Susan Britsch, and Kristina Davis for their hard work in guiding IAC through the grant paneling process. Mr. Williams moved to approve all IAC grants for FY 2011 as presented. Ms. Smith-King seconded the motion. The motion passed.

### **C. Advocacy & Awareness Committee, Karen Ellerbrook, Chair**

1. Ms. Ellerbrook explained that the Advocacy & Awareness Committee had previously recommended that the 2011 Governor's Arts Awards be held in Indianapolis, due to state-wide economic concerns and uncertainty about state funding for the program. Since that time, the full Commission expressed its desire to keep the door open as long as possible for communities outside of Indianapolis to apply to host the event. In its most recent meeting, the A & A committee agreed to recommend that IAC send out a state-wide call for Requests for Proposals (RFPs). Mr. Stifel moved that IAC prepare and send state-wide Requests for Proposals for the purpose of hosting the 2011 Governor's Arts Awards. Mr. Ford seconded the motion. The motion passed.

2. Ms. Ellerbrook reported that State Senator Vi Simpson, who has been a strong supporter of arts legislation, has been active during the period of time between legislative sessions, and is drafting letters to be sent to all legislators prior to the beginning of the next session in January. She encouraged all Commissioners to become members of the Indiana Coalition for the Arts (INCA). She announced that Tetia Lee, Executive Director of the Tippecanoe Arts Federation, is the incoming president of INCA. Mr. Ricci would like to arrange face-to-face meetings with all members of the Senate Finance Committee and the House Ways and Means Committee.

D. Cultural Trust Administrative Board, Kelly Schreckengast, Chair

Ms. Schreckengast presented the CTAB report (attached) showing the balance of the Trust Fund as of June 30, 2010 to be \$1,901,542.06. The invested funds are in three certificates of deposit, which are earning between 0.5% and 0.72%, and will provide \$31,581 in funding for Arts In Education grants in FY 2011. Mr. Ricci reported that a legal question has been raised regarding interest which was accrued prior to the fund reaching the \$1,000,000 threshold and if that interest (around \$50,000) is available for withdrawal. The Treasurer of the State has said that the legislation is not clear, and so the Treasurer would recommend not withdrawing those funds for use. However, the Treasurer left the door open for other legal opinions. Former IAC Commissioner, attorney Steve Tuchman, is drafting a letter stating the position that the money can be legally withdrawn. Commissioner Jeff Kirk, also an attorney, offered to research the question as well.

Ms. Schreckengast excused herself from the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

**6. Regional Arts Partners Update.** In the absence of RAP Consortium chair Sue Burk, the RAP report was given by Angela Butiste of the Community Foundation of St. Joseph County. She briefly reported on the latest meeting of the RAP Consortium, held on July 19, wherein the membership agreed to pursue not-for-profit status

**7. Old Business.** Ms. Mirro reviewed the terms of the current Commissioners, noting that six Commissioners have terms that will expire at the end of FY2011. She called upon all Commissioners to nominate suitable candidates from their regions to serve as Commissioner.

8. **New Business.** Ms. Mirro presented a printout (attached) showing IAC meeting dates for the remainder of FY 2011 (through June 2011).

9. **Closing Comments.** Mr. Stifel once again thanked Commissioner Irene Smith-King of Gary, for hosting the Commission at social events on the evening before the business meeting, as well as making the arrangements with IU Northwest to have the meeting on its campus. Ms. Mirro thanked everyone for their participation, and encouraged everyone to “keep the accent on the positive.”

10. **Adjourn.** Having lost quorum with the departure of Ms. Schreckengast, Ms. Mirro adjourned the meeting at 12: 20 p.m.